

# THE GATEWAY

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NO, I'M NOT HOOTIE! Murray Lightburn of the Dears plays Edmonton at the Powerplant on Saturday night.

## Mayor Smith speaks out on municipal issues

CAITLIN CRAWSHAW  
Associate News Editor

Mayor Bill Smith took the stage Thursday as part of the Speak Out speakers series on campus to discuss the economic, environmental and social challenges in governing Edmonton.

Speaking to a crowd of approximately 40 people, Smith, who will campaign for a fourth term in office next year, warned his audience that some of the city's practices require urgent change.

"If things remain the way they are, Edmonton and other Canadian cities are not sustainable," he stated.

"We will be unable to achieve a high quality of life today without jeopardizing the ability of your generation to do the same in the future."

We're at risk of losing our competitive edge as a result of aging infrastructure, affordable housing shortages, traffic congestion and rising debt levels."

Smith asserted that Edmonton must provide an economic climate that is one of the best in the world in order to be competitive globally.

"If we don't, it's an easy matter for our intellectual assets to pack up and move across borders," he said, explaining that greater commitment to economic development is required municipally, but also provincially and federally.

Smith also warned that cities across Canada are failing to invest in municipal infrastructure.

"In Edmonton, within the next ten years, our backlog of unfunded capital projects could exceed \$2.5 billion," he cautioned, emphasizing that the projects in question are not unnecessary frills, but are very necessary for the city.

But while provincial and federal governments reap the rewards of municipal growth, such as the expansion of West Edmonton Mall, Smith argued that cities pay the costs of maintaining that growth. With economic expansion comes a greater need for municipal services, and as such, Edmonton only aims to break even.

"Clearly, cities like Edmonton need new and better ways to accommodate growth if they are going to continue to be competitive in the global economy," he declared.

**"If things remain the way they are, Edmonton and other Canadian cities are not sustainable."**

MAYOR BILL SMITH

On issues of environmental sustainability, Canadian cities also face funding problems, said Smith. However, Smith reminded his audience of

Edmonton's internationally renowned waste management system. Sixty per cent of residential waste is now diverted away from landfills through a variety of more environmentally friendly alternatives.

"People are coming from all over the world to learn from us," said Smith.

The mayor explained that further improvements to Edmonton's environmental practices are required, however, including investments in the transit system and the retrofitting of civic buildings to make them more energy efficient.

PLEASE SEE MAYOR • PAGE 3

## Mock trial 'charges' Chinese President with torture

COSANNA PRESTON  
Associate News Editor

Chinese President Jiang Zemin was charged with conspiracy to destroy the spiritual practise of Falun Gong, torture, abuse of authority, genocide, and crimes against humanity at a mock trial demonstration in Gazebo Park near Whyte Avenue on Saturday morning.

Falun Gong is a spiritual practice that was introduced by founder Li Hongzhi to the public in May 1992. The teachings call on the practitioners to practice truthfulness, compassion, and tolerance through simple meditative exercises. By

the Chinese communist regime.

"The demonstration today with the mock trial is to make people conscious of what can happen when an evil regime takes over because of their own self-interests and pursuits," said Sun Koyavaller, a Falun Gong practitioner and one of the main organizers of the demonstration.

Falun Gong is a spiritual practice that was introduced by founder Li Hongzhi to the public in May 1992. The teachings call on the practitioners to practice truthfulness, compassion, and tolerance through simple meditative exercises. By

1999, close to 100 million people were practicing Falun Gong in China.

On 25 April 1999, ten thousand people rallied together in front of Zhongnanhai—the main government compound in China—to appeal the arrest of practitioners in a different state. According to the mock trial, this group peacefully gathered outside the compound, but the large demonstration rocked the Chinese leadership who had not seen such a large protest since students demonstrated in Tiananmen Square in 1989.

PLEASE SEE FALUN GONG • PAGE 3

## Social issues discussed at Anarchist Bookfair

HEATHER RITZER  
News Writer

Edmonton's second annual Anarchist Bookfair turned out to be much more than the name implied this weekend.

Aside from the myriad of books on gender, politics, race, and environmental issues being sold, the bookfair included well known anti-globalization protestor Jaggi Singh as its keynote speaker and various workshops on topics ranging from erotic language to police methodologies.

The bookfair was held at Queen Alexandra Community League Hall. Reece, an organizer of the event,

**"[The bookfair] will negate rumors that anarchism is disorganized and chaotic. [It's] actually just about organizing amongst equals rather than authoritarian leadership."**

REECE,  
EVENT ORGANIZER

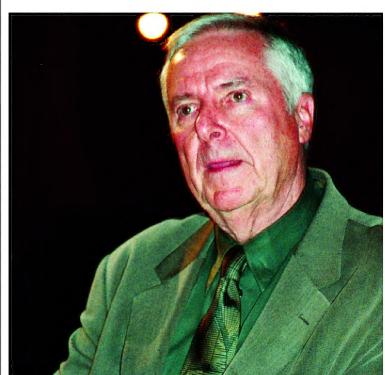
explained that one of the goals of the annual bookfair is to educate people about anarchist ideology and its tenets.

He hopes that the bookfair will negate rumors that anarchism is disorganized or chaotic."

Reece added that the ideology is "actually just about organizing amongst equals rather than authoritarian leadership."

According to Rachael, a self-proclaimed anarchist who attended the bookfair, the negative connotations associated with anarchism are largely a result of people's ignorance and lack of concern.

PLEASE SEE BOOKFAIR • PAGE 2



FACING EDMONTON'S FUTURE Mayor Bill Smith speaks on campus.

PHIL HEAD



8 Sorry to break it to you, dude, we're all going to die. But did you know that you're going to die in six easy steps? No you didn't. Meantime, Smartpantries. Now go read about it in today's feature.

**Inside**  
News  
Opinion  
Features  
Sports  
Art & Life  
Classifieds  
Comics

**Outside**  
Tuesday Flurries, you don't have to move snowdrifts. Sun: High 4, Low -3  
Wednesday More flurries, you're in the mood of wishing on a falling star. Sun: High 4, Low -4  
Thursday Flurries are smelly, you got to put your faith in a loud guitar. Sun: High 1, Low -9  
Friday Yay! Sun! God gave rock 'n' roll a High 10, Low -12



## From the archives

The historic Gameau theatre was almost converted into a bar in 1992. A Toronto-based company by Greg Sandwell approached the city to rezone the building as a development for a bar and a night club. Sandwell planned to design the building as a historical site so that any renovations in the future would only affect the inside of the building. Sandwell wanted to offer pool tables, dancing, and sports like beach volleyball or indoor basketball for entertainment. The new bar was going to be named the Gameau and would have had a maximum capacity of 400 people. Developers were simply waiting for the proposal to go through at press time, but since the Gameau still a theatre and not a bar, the proposal ultimately must have failed.

1992



10 These count 'em, three Alberta teams clinched playoff berths this weekend. One of which is the football team who clinched their first playoff since the year 1993.



## STREETERS

Compiled and photographed  
by Robin Collum and Matt Fehner

The Edmonton  
Trappers were recently  
sold and will be moving  
to Round Rock, Texas  
at the end of the 2004  
season.

What was your reaction  
to the sale?



Cam Gregg  
Science I

Well, I've never really watched baseball, and it's really not that big in Edmonton. I really couldn't care less. No one goes to Trappers games anyway. Revenue at other sports games might go up, and baseball fans will find other sports to watch, potentially.



Steven Rowe  
Arts IV

I'm not much of a baseball fan, but I think it's sad to see another Canadian team sold off to the States. I've actually never been to a Trappers game. I think this will definitely have an impact on other sports in Edmonton. It's a trend that's being repeated throughout Canada, where aren't making any money here being sold off to the States. You've got the Montréal Expos, and sooner or later with the Edmonton Oilers and Calgary Flames—they're definitely at risk.



Juliana  
Vanderpham  
Neuroscience II

I really don't follow sports at all. I've never been to a Trappers game. I think that as far as teams go in Edmonton, the Trappers are one of the least popular. If this were to happen to the Oilers, I know it'd be a way bigger deal. I don't really think this will set a precedent for other teams to leave Edmonton though. The others seem much better integrated into the community.



Michelle Hill  
Civil  
Engineering V

It's a great loss to the city, but I don't follow them so closely that I would miss them terribly. I did go to a game this summer, and I'm glad I went. It was a great game, when they won the division title. They will be sadly missed in the city.



PERUSING THE BOOKFAIR Attendees of the Anarchist Bookfair this weekend. MELANIE MAH

## Bookfair's keynote starts event with look at global anarchy

BOOKFAIR • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I think people don't really think about it at all. I think most of the negative connotations bring about apathy in people. They just assume that anarchists are not to be taken seriously."

Singh kicked off the event with a keynote entitled "No One is Illegal: Anarchy, Borders and Global Apartheid," which dealt with issues such as problems with immigration policies, racism, and the effect of globalization.

"Anarchy is a philosophy, practice, and historical tradition ... and also a collective and social struggle," said Singh. One of the main problems with immigration, he said, is that in a globalizing world, "you have unprecedented migration, and at the same time, you also have unprecedented barriers to these people."

People are experiencing greater problems in their home countries due to increased poverty, low wage, and environmental concerns, he explained, but are also prevented from leaving these problems by strict immigration controls in first-world countries.

He criticized both Canadian and

American immigration policies. Singh explained that these policies are dangerous because they have specific expectations of what role immigrants will fill in society.

Engineers, he said, are more valuable and therefore more likely to be able to immigrate than someone with an arts degree, for example.

"These policies keep people more exploitable, more usable, when they are here," he said. In particular, he addressed the issue of refugees.

"Refugee claims are now being judged by single judges. This allows for people who are refugees to be detained for no reason ... also, to be a refugee, you must prove that you have had a gun put to your head, that you have torture marks, otherwise you are seen as being a liar."

The people who attended the event spanned a broad range of ages and many attended out of curiosity, wanting to add to their book collections, or in support of the anarchist cause. The Anarchist Bookfair is expected to return to Edmonton annually.

"I hope it will continue to be an important part of the Albertan anarchist and activist scene," said Reece.



GATEWAY NEWS: Uncovering mass graves since 1910

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# A-Channel... Station of broken promises

When A-Channel came to Edmonton 6 years ago, employees say the station made promises... promises that have been broken.

A-Channel workers in Edmonton have been on strike since September 17. From their perspective, the strike is about promises made... and promises broken.

They say they accepted low wages over the past several years in return for a promise they would get a bigger piece of the pie once A-Channel established itself.

Employees believe they've kept their end of the bargain. They've helped build A-Channel into an award winning station. But workers say the company has failed to make good on its word. A-Channel continues to dish out the lowest wages in the Edmonton television market.

Employees say A-Channel is also letting down the community. Its always claimed to be 'Very Edmonton'. Now, managers are threatening to move jobs to Calgary.

Things are so bad, A-Channel has become a revolving door. In just 3 years, more than 70 percent of the staff have quit. Striking workers believe something is seriously wrong when people are leaving in such numbers.

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[www.cep1900.ca](http://www.cep1900.ca)



## AIDS help might not be enough

WITH THE GLOBAL AIDS BATTLE now into its third decade, it seems wealthy countries may be getting serious about the problem.

On 24 October, former US president Bill Clinton announced that four companies producing a generic AIDS drugs would reduce their price to one third of the cost for many developing nations. The recipient countries will include Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania and nine Caribbean countries.

I was thrilled to read the headline of the article from BBC news online, "Clinton brokers landmark AIDS deal," and for a fleeting moment I thought the West had taken a giant leap and finally started recognizing the world's worst epidemic.

Unfortunately, after reading the article and the feedback section it was a little less enthusiastic. The leap was more of a step—a big step, but only a step nonetheless. The first major issue of concern for me was still the cost of the drugs. Slashing the prices by two thirds seems enormous, and it is, but let's say something was \$300 000 reduced to \$100 000; it's cheaper, but it's by no means affordable. In this case, drugs that would normally cost more than \$1.50 a day will now sell for forty cents, but for people who live off of less than a dollar a day, this cost is still too high. If a person puts money towards drugs that could help ease the suffering caused by AIDS and HIV sufferers, that means no money for survival. But death is inevitable without the drugs. It's a Catch-22.

The second problem with the initiative is the factor of corrupt governments. Without a regulated distribution body, the governments will likely hijack the drugs and sell them for exorbitant prices, thus generating more money for already wealthy leaders. Third, out of the 42 million people living with AIDS around the world, almost 30 million live in Sub-Saharan Africa, but there's very little focus on this. This new deal acknowledges the most infected country in the world, South Africa, but ignores the four other hardest-hit countries: Zambia, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, and Botswana. Meanwhile, nine countries in the Caribbean will receive the cost break, where just over 400 000 people suffer from the disease. Both the southern African countries and the Caribbean are in desperate need of the reduced cost. I am not saying we shouldn't help the Caribbean, but the deal should be extended to those most in need.

Fourth, as developed nations, we tend to overestimate the education and acceptance levels with regards to AIDS in the developing nations, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa. The South African president has yet to acknowledge the link between HIV and AIDS. The new drug deal will help control those already infected, but it will not stop the spread of HIV and AIDS, which will continue to grow as long as sexual education is lacking, poverty situations worsen, and AIDS remains a taboo topic.

Clinton's deal is a big step but it's not the leap that so many are hoping for. The world has to wage an all-out war on the AIDS epidemic, through drug funding and facilitating education. The infected countries cannot be expected to do this alone. Wealthy countries need to help with funding, and the infected countries need to acknowledge the problem and facilitate education. Without a constant, worldwide team effort, Clinton's big step will fall short as the disease continues to spread uncontrollably.

COSANNA PRESTON  
Associate News Editor

## Learn to write. Now

THE APOCALYPSE IS HERE: the inferno in California, the floods in BC, and the fields of ravaging locusts. Admittedly, all the destruction is horrendous, but there's an even worse plague coming: the demise of literacy.

It's amazing how many people are unable to form a coherent written sentence. Some are fourth-year English students, others science majors. But they all have an education that apparently hasn't taught them to write.

It's a crime students don't have to write more than three essays in English 101 to earn a degree, because if you want to survive in the real world you'll need to pick up your pen.

HEATHER ADLER  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

## LETTERS

### The Women's Centre Collective responds

The majority of the arguments against the Women's Centre have been rooted in a discourse of equality. But what is this condition so dear to so many liberal-democratic hearts? Does equality imply sameness? Many marginalized groups have argued that the sameness equality implies a homogenizing effect that diminishes the rich diversity of human experience.

Most would argue that equality means equal rights. They would argue that groups of people are different but that they all deserve the same respect, dignity and opportunities. There are two assumptions implicit in the argument that the Women's Centre violates men's equal rights. The first is that women are already afforded the same respect, dignity and opportunities as men. And the second is that women's needs can be entirely met by institutions and services that have largely been developed, designed and run by men. If that were so the women's washrooms would have tampon dispensers and the university would offer free daycare.

Just because some women's rights have been encoded into law and policy does not mean our cultural practices have altered so drastically that women are treated as equals in all spheres of society. Even if women comprise a significant portion of some undergraduate programs—the undergraduate degrees that pay well such as engineering, as well as graduate degrees, that are still largely being pursued by men. It is existing practical inequalities like this, from the glaring lack of pay equity laws in Alberta to the hostility shown towards feminism in many classroom environments, that the Women's Centre seeks to address.

It was not out of fear (as some critics have suggested) that the women of the collective came together, but out of a desire for a space to help build an on-campus feminist community. Some have argued that not all students need a Women's Centre; similarly, not all of us make use of the Chaplain's Office, Peer Health or the Sexual Assault Centre, but these services are still essential to a healthy campus community. Until rape stops, until we achieve economic parity and universal daycare, until women's voices are taken as seriously as men's, until the life of the street prostitute is considered as valuable as the life of a police officer, then the women's centre will be essential to a healthy campus community.

Much has been made of the fact that we have received funding from the administration. To be clear: we have received one shoebox-sized office, one slightly larger office that was previously used to store unwanted furniture and a one-time gift of \$5000—and we are going to make the most of it. Our \$500 and our dark corner of SUB will not bring back your department reading room, the job of a dismissed sessional instructor or the cancelled class you were looking forward to. Direct your frustration at the provincial government, not us.

On a final note, much frustration has been expressed by men unable



to enter the women- and trans-only space. We didn't know that so many men were interested in feminist organizing and discussion. Please do visit us. The resource room is open to all genders and our volunteers will be happy to educate you on the issues surrounding feminism. We think the idea of having a place where men can discuss how masculinity is constructed in our culture and explore what it is like to be raised male in a misogynist society is fantastic. If there is a group of men on campus who would like to start a discussion group, run a workshop or even begin a Men's Centre please contact us. We would be happy to provide any assistance we can.

U of A Women's Centre Collective

### Millwoods only dangerous for criminals

In reference to Sarah Hanasyk's 23 October article, "Millwoods is not the same white-picket-fence suburban utopia it used to be," amen, sister. I'm beyond sick of nouveau-Riverbendites telling me they moved out of Millwoods "because of all the crime." Unfortunately, what these people aren't understanding is that these crimes are not random in the least—unless you're involved with criminals, they most likely won't affect you.

It's quite aggravating that the mainstream media are quick to label Millwoods as crime-ridden and these crimes as gang activity. Not 24 hours after Richard Prasad was gunned down around the corner from my house, in the alley I walk through twice each day to and from my bus stop, several media outlets had branded his shooting a "gang-style execution." I don't know what they heard, but I didn't hear any tommy guns going off. In an article on the shooting, an area resident was quoted as saying that she heard gunshots go off "all the time." I live within 200 metres of this person, and I've never heard any gunshots before.

I love my neighbourhood and the rest of Millwoods very much. I'm proud to live here and wouldn't mind spending the rest of my days here. Is Millwoods the suburban utopia it used to be? Probably not, no. But if the solution is to simply pack up and move somewhere further out

of the city, then the people that complain to me about the crime in Millwoods had better not complain to me about urban sprawl.

SIMON SPEICHERT  
Arts III

### Drinking is not a crime

Barrie, it was very nice of you to explain your position of why you include Lister in your Crime Beat section so often ("Lister will continue to be in the Crime Beat," 23 October). And granted, many good points are brought up.

Lister students, generally, do drink quite a bit. I live here and I'm not going to try and convince anyone we're all perfectly well-behaved students, or even that some of us make stupid decisions when alcohol is involved. But you failed to impress upon me why in a section labeled Campus Crime Beat (key word: crime) you include incidents involving the overconsumption of alcohol.

If a kid in Lister sits in his room and drinks until he passes out, that's not terribly bright, but it isn't illegal, either. Even if he has to have his stomach pumped, dumb as that maybe, based on my minimal knowledge of the legal system, that's not a crime either.

We here live on campus, under your scrutiny it seems, and if we fuck up, the university campus is much more aware of it, thanks kindly to you. And then you can sit there smug in the knowledge if you have a bad period in your personal life, no one is writing about your follies, because you live on the other side of some street. So I'd very much appreciate it if you'd only write about Lister when it involves crime. Otherwise, change the name of your column.

PAUL KNOECHEL  
Science I

### Bike licensing is dumb

Yeah, I know I may be a considered a "nerd" for taking the time to reply to Dave Gibson's piece ("Bicycle Licensing will Protect Riders," 16 October) but it is, after all, the Year of the Bike, at least according to the SU.

First, the city's report called for mandatory licensing for bicycles

ridden by those over twelve years old, not under. Also, there's no law in Edmonton for people over the age of 18 to wear a helmet. Only minors are required by law to wear one.

Second, there is a proposal currently being considered by City Council that would ban bicycles from off-leash areas and some of the river valley trails. There isn't even a hint that the licensing scheme would be used to fund more trails or lanes on roads that could be used by cyclists. The real aim of licensing is "to regulate its use, and do that through making it possible to penalize people without a license."

The money collected from licensing will be a pittance, and the enforcement nearly impossible. A proposal such as this couldn't pay for itself, let alone fund some sort of bicycle path building boom. If biking were a user-pay kind of system where the costs were to be borne by those who use it, then the licenses would have to be so expensive that few people would be able to afford it. (more likely people would just ignore the bylaw).

To me, the idea that licensing bicycles will make it somehow safer to ride seems completely out of touch with the reality on the streets. The real reason why cycling is sometimes dangerous is not that bikes don't have a tiny sticker or license plate on them, it's the lack of respect from some motorists, and, often, cyclists themselves breaking the traffic laws. If Mr. Gibson feels "unsafe being a pedestrian," maybe there should be mandatory licensing for that too, not to mention skateboarders, rollerbladers, scooters and wheelchairs.

TONY CLARK  
SU Executive Policy and Information  
Assistant

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to managing@gatewayualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.

## Apathy isn't going to decrease tuition



DAVID  
BERRY

"But who can blame Oberg for being a bit presumptuous? When was the last time the provincial Tories didn't get their way? Anytime a contentious issue comes along, out come the amnesia-inducing rebate cheques and energy surcharges, and we never hear about it again."

Maybe in the last SU election, you voted for a candidate solely in the hopes that, if elected, he and his sexy, sexy eyes would make you his "intern" and you could spend many a late night at the "office" helping him "get" his "pants off." Maybe in the provincial election, you voted NDP solely for one of these stylin' "Raj Against the Machine" shirts. Or maybe, like roughly two out of every five Canadians in federal elections—and even higher numbers the further down the political chain you go—you didn't even bother to vote in the last election you were eligible for.

If any of these sound like you or someone you know, you needn't worry too much; it's just that good old standby of Canadian society—political apathy—rearing its attractive yet irresponsible head.

But if ever there was a time to get politically involved, especially as students and especially in Alberta, it has to be now. Just in time for Halloween, there have been two chilling developments of late in Canadian/Albertan politics that should scare us out of our houses and into the streets to go "trick-or-treating" for the candy that is political involvement.

First, as a result of some alignment of the planets that opened the gates to hell, Canada's two major federal

right-wing parties, the Progressive Conservatives and the Canadian Alliance, merged into one dangerous and viable entity, in the sense that they may actually have a chance of winning an election. But it's not the merger in itself that is so troubling so much as the way the merger is heading.

You see, even though I tend to follow my cink's lead and lean a little to the left, there are still a few conservative ideas that I would welcome in Ottawa: scrapping the gun registry springs to mind, and maybe a little fiscal conservatism in the sense of not letting federal bureaucrats blow millions of dollars on expense accounts. But the scary thing about this merger is that it is not just giving birth to a practical conservative alternative to the Liberals, but an increasingly big-C conservative party. This seems more a takeover of the moderate conservative PC party by the hard-line Alliance than an actual merger, and I'm worried that the "viable alternative" created will be eerily similar to a Canadian branch of the American Republican party, opposing fundamental progressive ideas like gay marriage and developing stronger ties with an increasingly internationally unworthy America.

But maybe conservative ideas are your cup of tea, and you're practically

wetting your corduroy pants at the prospect of a newly-minted Conservative Party of Canada teaching us hippie liberal punks a lesson. Fine, but you should at least be lessoned about the other pox on our land, Learning Minister Lyke Oberg and his Bill 43, which aims to both remove the tuition cap for universities and give colleges like Medicine Hat and G-Mac degree-granting status.

Lyke ruffled a few feathers lately with his pronouncement that Medicine Hat College would be able to grant degrees within a month or so as a result of Bill 43. As SU VP (External) Arctic Samson noted in a recent *Gateway* article, it's a little surprising Lyke would imply "that there's no chance of this bill being changed, which is completely contradictory to the whole spirit of a deliberative body."

But who can blame Oberg for being a bit presumptuous? When was the last time the provincial Tories didn't get their way? Anytime a contentious issue comes along, out come the amnesia-inducing rebate cheques and energy surcharges, and we never hear about it again. But unless you like student debt and the devolution of your education, I'd say it's time some of us tried to stop them.

Or we could just stay at home in our Raj shirts, dreaming about sexy, sexy eyes.

## America: we are forever in its shadow



ADAM  
ROZENHART

but when they finally did it was much to our embarrassment: one of their citizens, originally a television producer, invented the first *postionic* android ever. This android went on to serve on one of the most powerful starships in the entire galaxy. How did we respond? We invented the world's first CP8 dummie in 1989. It kind of pales in comparison to Lieutenant Commander Data's superior processing abilities, but then again we Canadians are known for our modesty.

Most recently, the citizens of BC had the Americans beat by playing host to one of the most devastating forest fires in Canada's history. It tore through countless homes and forests, and eventually was brought under control by our courageous firefighters. Finally, Canada had something to brag about. We had them beat... until last week, when the news photographs showed us the fires currently devastating California.

Even in the case of natural disasters, we simply cannot compete with the US and changed the face of popular music forever. But we thought we had them beat when we showed them Paul Anka. "Look at him! He's so sweet and innocent. People love sweet innocence," we told them. All they responded with was "Wait." Then they threw a zillion other heart-throb singers our way and continue to do so today. Just look at Justin Timberlake.

We took this all in stride, of course. We left well enough alone until 1977, when Canadian Helmut Lucas invented the prosthetic hand. It took the Americans some years to respond,

as long as we don't get bombed I guess it isn't all bad. Besides, if our weak Canadian dollar keeps gaining on the greenback, we'll be able to push other nations around and produce shoddy automobiles before you know it.

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## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

### Faculty of Arts Teaching Awards

In the interest of recognizing teaching and to encourage teaching of the highest quality, the Faculty of Arts will present annually the following awards for undergraduate teaching:

#### FACULTY UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING AWARD

**Eligibility:** Full-time continuing academic staff with at least five years of full-time teaching experience at the University of Alberta

**Nominations:** One from each department

**Number of Awards:** Up to three, usually one to each division of the Faculty

**Deadline:** January 15, 2004

#### SESSIONAL INSTRUCTOR TEACHING AWARD

**Eligibility:** Temporary academic staff with at least three years teaching experience (18 credits) at the University of Alberta

**Nominations:** Two from each department

**Number of Awards:** Granted to the three most deserving nominees in the Faculty taken as a whole

**Deadline:** February 6, 2004

#### GRADUATE STUDENT TEACHING AWARD

**Eligibility:** Must have taught as graduate teaching assistants for a minimum of two academic (four month) terms, which may include the term in which the nominations is made

**Nominations:** Two from each department

**Number of Awards:** Up to nine

**Deadline:** February 6, 2004

Nominations can be made by students, colleagues and/or department Chairs. Interested persons should discuss possible nominations with the appropriate department Chair well in advance of the deadline.

FACULTY OF

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## If it's true love, let them get married



ROSS MOROZ

Canadians of all political stripes are locked in a fierce debate about this whole marriage thing, with talk around the dinner tables and water coolers of the nation invariably revolving around the issue. Up until now, I've avoided writing on the subject, but with the rhetoric on both sides reaching a fevered pitch, I feel that it is my civic duty to reveal my true feelings about this contentious topic.

After careful consideration and examination of my strongly-held personal beliefs, I can firmly assert that I believe that if two right-wing political parties love each other very much, they should be allowed to marry. I am glad the Progressive Conservatives and the Canadian Alliance feel that the time has come to publicly affirm their affection for each other. I support Conservative Marriage.

I should say that I'm not a conservative, but I'm by no means narrow-minded. Like many people I have some conservative leanings. However, the exploration of my conservative side has consisted of surreptitious late-night visits to the *National Post* website.

The point is I am certainly not conservative-phobic—most of my best friends are conservatives. Just last week a friend of mine revealed to me that he was, in fact, a conservative. He then asked me if I wanted to, as he put it, "join the party." I said that I was flattered, but that in the end, I was happy with my political orientation—and besides, imagine what my parents would say.

So even though I will probably never be involved in a Conservative marriage, I find myself thrilled for the happy couple. Watching the leaders of the two parties announce their engage-

ment was heart-warming to say the least. Stephen Harper giddily blurted out that he "hadn't slept a wink" the night before, while a doe-eyed Peter MacKay simply gazed lovingly at his betrothed. You get the feeling that MacKay—young, fresh-faced, boyish—had his eye on that rugged cowboy Harper for some time now. This may have come about because of flirratus notes being passed during question period. Perhaps a mutual friend set them up on a blind date. Maybe it all started on a conservative personals website—you know, "myopically right-wing Canadian political party seeks historically prominent yet recently impotent centre-right group for coalition to legitimize crazy policies." Friendship first. Then, who knows?" I'm not exactly sure how it happened, but either way, I'm happy that Canadian society has matured enough to accept and embrace this type of union.

As usual, attitudes are a little different in the United States. South of the border, politicians are clamouring to be seen as being neither conservative nor liberal but "bipartisan." Newly-elected California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has come out as bipartisan, although stories about past conservative behaviour have surfaced. While bipartisans like Schwarzenegger are publicly supported and applauded by conservatives, most conservatives privately maintain that bipartisans are "just kidding themselves."

So here's to a long and happy marriage. Maybe this new acceptance of the conservative lifestyle will lead to the patching up of some recent political divides; it is rumoured that the reason Jean Chrétien dumped Paul Martin was because Chrétien suspected Martin was a closet conservative (maybe he found some old issues of *Alberta Report* hidden underneath Martin's beef). Whatever happens, Canada has become more accepting and inclusive towards the conservative lifestyle. And really, who could oppose acceptance and inclusion?

## Canada should be more selective about who it gets into bed with



CHEUNG

Having done virtually everything in his aptocleptic senility to alienate Canada's largest trading partner, short of dropping his khakis and blowing a fart in George Bush's face, Jean Chrétien seems to have found solace from frosty American-Canadian relations by hopping into bed with China. Chrétien's now shamelessly humping China's leg, from pimping CANDU nuclear reactors to Chinese president Hu Jintao's APEC summit in Bangkok to a visit in Beijing last week with Canadian and Chinese business leaders. And China, akin to a child star just turned 18 with its windfall of a sudden spurt in economic growth and activity, is only too eager to hump back.

Chrétien justified it all by delivering a lecture on how much China's human rights have improved over the past decade. He chided the Chinese government for continuing to punish political dissidents, such as those from the Falun Gong movement, but claimed that China will only improve its sordid human rights record if we forge closer economic ties and effect change from within the relationship.

While the opposite approach hasn't worked spectacularly well—US trade sanctions on Iraq and Cuba only hurt their populations while leaving intact their oppressive leaders—encouraging Canadian investors essentially to indulge the burgeoning Chinese market indiscriminately is far from responsible, especially in the wake of environment minister David Anderson warning China that its goal of quadrupling its economy over the next two decades could lead to devastating pollution, killing thousands of children.

While Anderson plays the parent who threatens to withhold dessert unless China shapes up, Chrétien undermines him by slipping the country a piece of pie anyway.

It may be true that China's economic growth has meant slightly more freedom for the Chinese to express themselves and criticize their own government, but only indirectly. The government hasn't so much changed its policies as the country has been flooded with new technologies—cell phones and the Internet—allowing Chinese citizens discrete freedom of speech in the relative safety of their own homes. However, the infrastructure to support these new trends and technologies has yet to catch up: roads built primarily for bicycle traffic are girdled with smoke-belching cars, Shanghai is sinking under the weight of its towering skyscrapers, and Canadian investments in sectors with the most immediate financial gains are only helping to widen the gap, providing the Chinese government little incentive to upgrade its foundations.

It seems China, with its still largely coal-based industries, is experiencing some growing pains as England did during the industrial revolution three centuries earlier. In the west, we've learned our lessons about the environmental and social impact of runaway industrialization, yet we're investing

little to help China—which holds the dubious distinction of having the most polluted capital city in the world—bypass this phase in its growth. It's not a rite of passage—we know what can be done to avoid it, and we should realize that the local Chinese conditions contribute to the global environment that affects us all. Beyond climate change and ozone depletion or acid rain, a more immediate and striking example is that the simple practice of housing pigs and chickens serves to create and catalyze the annual bursts of influenza, not uncorrelated with China's lack of rural education and farming infrastructure.

Sweeping boycotts won't help things; it's important to realize that not everything labeled "Made in China" was manufactured in sweatshops. In fact, most Chinese exports are in all probability produced by reasonably paid labourers who need to support themselves and their families, while the costs are kept down largely by an undervalued currency, and boycotting Chinese products would only serve to hurt workers. We should be more vigilant in putting pressure on our government to take responsibility in its investments by reinforcing the base on which this precarious economic house of card was built. As it currently stands, if it collapses, the Chinese government won't be the only ones stained with their citizens' blood.

out of it. Sadly, the monkeys they've hired to perform this task are completely inept.

So now I suffer, unable to find a decent enough dessert to suit my needs. Dairy Queen is too fat, and Mac's is too. Mac's, I'm going to go and cry now.

ADAM ROZENHART

### THE BURLAP SACK

This stab-tacular sack beating goes out to the geniuses at McDonald's, who couldn't adequately mix a McFlurry to save their lives.

I'm assuming, of course, that the device used to mix these frozen treats—likely a "mixer" of some sort—aren't all that difficult to fix out. You stick the mixing appendage into the McFlurry, press go, and mix the shit

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PE...



## GO OUT

deas, and stubbornly refuses to give up all signs from the bloodstream, cells survive throughness, but keeps cells from dying long after you're

aker, moves blood through your arteries. This keeps the this time that your organs would be "harvested," is the best time to transplant the organ into someone

an dry of any source of ATP (the chemical used to its begins to set in. Translated from Latin, rigor appropriately. As the body uses up the last of its than the phenomenon of stiff, aching muscles

ve, would be broken down) reacts with actin and gel that stiffens the cell structure. When this happens eses is dependent on many factors; the way you died, Though rigor mortis can be delayed, it can not be nics will quickly undergo the process when they're e body starts to decompose. Decomposition begins, because lysosomes—a cell's "self-destruct button"

## ROAD

leless carcass. Other people become involved. An declare you dead. Once this has happened, your body death, your body is brought to a memorial home cations of the cause of death, or if the family requests it,

the morgue, which is kept cold to prevent the body d your toe that marks your file, in case anyone needs to our autopsy begins.

## IRSELF

of death, although many things can be discovered other Latin word, meaning "see for yourself." A performs the procedure, and, in essence, it is no

different than any surgery, with the important exception that the patient is deceased. The process is very thorough, and begins with an examination of the outside of the body. Signs of disease, residues left on the skin and marks on the body are all searched for and meticulously recorded. Skin and hair samples are taken, and then the dissection begins.

Just as before, the examination is as complete as possible. Each organ is removed, looked over and weighed. All of this is recorded in a report. Everything is examined, and samples of blood, urine, even stomach contents and the vitreous humour (the fluid in your eyeballs) are taken. Special consideration is taken for the liver; it absorbs all sorts of chemicals, and more often than not, toxins that may have lead to the subject's death can be found in it. All samples are stored, and will be looked at later, under microscope in a lab.

After everything has been searched over with a fine-tooth comb (not literally, mind you), everything is returned to the body in its rightful place. The body is sewn-up and returned to the morgue until it can be brought to a memorial home.



## 5 DYING TO SEE YOU

When you arrive at the memorial home, your body is kept in a storage room, similar to a morgue. At this point, your journey is put on hold as the funeral director and your family discuss how you wish to be remembered. Until a final decision is made, nothing happens to your body, unless some irreversible procedure (such as a cremation) is performed. By having your final wishes determined before you pass away, the whole issue can be dealt with quickly, and the grieving process can start as soon as possible.

If you plan on having an open-casket service, your body must be embalmed. Objectively, it's a simple enough process. Embalming fluid (a formaldehyde-based solution) is directed into your arteries, while your blood is guided out of your body through your veins. Embalming itself takes anywhere from two hours to half a day, depending on if you've taken certain kinds of medication, especially those that affected blood flow and pressure. Once the process is done, your body can be kept at room temperature safely, since 99 per cent of the bacteria in your body has been killed off by the embalming fluid, preventing decomposition.

Cremation, a process where the body is reduced to ash, is performed at a crematorium, in a specially designed oven. The oven, a miniature blast furnace, heats up to thousands of degrees Celsius, leaving only bone fragments behind. While a family can request things to be burnt along with the body, things that have a tendency to explode are not allowed; watches and hearing aids need to have their batteries removed, and pacemakers are taken from the body entirely, to prevent a dangerous explosion. Once the cremation is done, high-powered magnets remove any trace metals and metal objects like nails from the coffin or container. Your ashes are placed in an urn, and given to your family.



## 6 THE BIG CHILL

Your funeral is the most public part of your death. It's your final send-off, a way for your friends and family to say goodbye one last time. Your funeral will be as individual as you were.

How your funeral goes is largely up to your family, your religious background and any final wishes you had. While very traditional, religious funerals are still (and will perhaps always be) an option, the current trend has been to "personalize" the event; as it is a celebration of your life, it ought to be about you. Despite differences in funerals, there are always a few similarities. Music is played, whether the selection is a quiet, Enya-esque background, or a pause in the ceremony to play a favorite or meaningful hymn or piece. A eulogy is given, whether by a clergyman, a family member, good friend or the funeral director.

Once the funeral is over, your body is finally put to rest. You may be buried, placed in a mausoleum, have your ashes spread out at sea or any number of lasting memorials. Your body's travels on earth have ended. Memories remain, and the constant wonder of what will become of ourselves long after our bodies reach the same spot in the road.

## Dying with morbid curiosity? Websites!

[www.pathguy.com/autopsy](http://www.pathguy.com/autopsy)

[www.death.monstrous.com/signs\\_of\\_death.htm](http://www.death.monstrous.com/signs_of_death.htm)

# SPORTS

sports@gatewayualberta.ca • tuesday, 28 october, 2003

## Bears and Pandas clinch trifecta of playoff berths

Pandas and Golden Bears soccer teams to return to playoffs while football Bears will make first playoff appearance since 1993

JOEL FREHNER  
Sports Editor

While boarding each of their buses this weekend, the Golden Bears football team and both of the University of Alberta football (read: soccer) teams were able to take their seats in peace, knowing they'd clinched a playoff berth. Though each team is playoff bound for next weekend, each took a different route to get there.

For the footballers, good news came from the out-of-town scoreboard, as Calgary's loss to SFU in Burnaby clinched a Bears postseason spot despite a 21-20 loss to the Regina Rams, ending a playoff drought that stretched back to 1993. In his third season with the team, Bears head coach Jerry Friesen was able to pull the team out of Canada West obscurity and do what seemed to be the impossible. The always-humble Friesen still believes that his team hasn't reached their goal yet. "Well I think we haven't played our best football game yet, with all three units, special teams, offense and defense playing their best games," said Friesen. "We expect to see that happen on Saturday when we go to Saskatoon."

The Bears won't know until tests come back later today whether starting pivot Darrell Salmon will be ready to play. Injury kept Salmon from playing in Regina, dampening the team's air attack, and put more pressure on running back Jarred Winkel. Despite the loss, Winkel answered the call, rushing for 180 yards and breaking the U of A single-season rushing record with 1147 yards on the year.

Further north of Regina, on a Saskatchewan highway, the Bears and Pandas soccer teams were returning from Saskatoon, secure in knowing they had done their jobs. Accompanied by the footballers who play the Huskies in the first round, Bears soccer head coach Len Vickery's team will be returning to Saskatoon next weekend, thanks to a 1-0 victory over the University of Saskatchewan



MATT FREHNER

**PLAYOFF BOUND** Pandas striker Alix Strap, Bears running back Jarred Winkel, and Bears midfielder Hilaire Kamdem await Canada West playoffs.



FILE PHOTO: SHAWN BENBOW



MATT FREHNER

Huskies on Friday. "We've been trying to ensure that we put ourselves in this position (playoffs)," said Vickery. "Now we can take the shackles off a little bit and turn [the team] loose for two games next weekend, hopefully in a winning cause, and back to a national championship."

While the Bears needed only one win to clinch their playoff spot, the Pandas needed four points

from their three weekend games, including a 2-0 victory against Regina on Thursday that resulted in a 2-0 Pandas victory. A 2-0 win Friday in Saskatoon secured head coach Kelly Vandergrift's side with a playoff berth. "I'm looking forward to [the playoffs], because we play better against the stronger teams," said Vandergrift. "It's going to be tough, it's going to be a good competition,

and I expect a tough physical [opening] game [against Victoria in the first round], with hopefully us ending up on top."

With the Bears heading to Saskatoon for their postseasons, and the Pandas in Lethbridge, the return bus ride will be either jovial or morose, but definitely not as reassuring this weekend's drive through the prairie.

## WEEKEND SCORES

### Soccer

Thursday (in Regina):  
Pandas 2 Cougars 0

Friday (in Saskatoon):  
Pandas 2 Huskies 0  
Golden Bears 1 Huskies 0

Saturday  
Pandas 1 Huskies 0  
Golden Bears 1 Huskies 0

### Football

Saturday (in Regina):  
Golden Bears 20 Rams 21

### Pandas Hoopfest

Friday:  
Calgary 82 Concordia 69  
Saskatchewan 70 Queen's 47  
Alberta 68 Bishop's 75

Saturday:  
Saskatchewan 62 Concordia 60  
Calgary 90 Bishop's 83  
Alberta 61 Queen's 65

Sunday:  
Saskatchewan 76 Bishop's 81  
Calgary 58 Queen's 54  
Alberta 56 Concordia 62

### Women's Hockey

Friday:  
Pandas 7 Huskies 1  
Saturday:  
Pandas 6 Huskies 0

## Puck and banner drop in Pandas home opener

ANDREW TOUGAS  
Sports Staff

When the 2002/03 CIS Women's Hockey Championship banner came down, literally, on the U of A Pandas home team Friday night, it appeared to give the home team early game jitters. With the Pandas shaken, it looked foreseeable that the large contingent of the opposing University of Saskatchewan Huskies friends and family in the stands might go home with a win. What wasn't foreseeable was the volley of key goals from forward Lindsey Skelding that opened up the tide for the home team, en route to a 7-1 Pandas victory.

The season-opening ceremony began with the traditional introduction of players from the Pandas, followed by the unfurling of their Championship banner, which unfurled after a couple of tries only to fall down from its wire and onto the Panda players. Pandas captain/blueliner Judy Diduck would hold the banner up to cheers of the amused audience.

Following the ceremony, the Huskies hard work and enthusiasm took the Pandas away from their game. Had the Huskies not missed some great scoring chances, their quick start may have sealed the game away early, had some great scoring chances not been missed.

The Huskies would not those missed opportunities when Skelding cashed in on two key opportunities in the first period, the first one coming off a three-on-one shorthanded breakaway and another off a faceoff deep in the Huskies zone with 2.8 seconds left. Also putting two goals was forward Kristen Hagg, with forwards Taryn Barry, Lindsay McAlpine, and Danielle Bourgeois rounding out the Panda scoring.

"It's real important to draw the first blood," said Pandas head coach Howie Draper. "We were all a little jittery, but when you get those goals

you can settle down and play your game."

Huskies coach Donna Reaburn echoed those sentiments, noting her team's efforts up until the point of Skelding's shorthanded goal. "I thought we carried the play to Alberta pretty good from the start and had some pressure," said Reaburn. "Yeah, that's one hurt."

Despite the nerves, Draper liked his team's execution in the first period and wants to see his team pick up from there and play a more disciplined game.

"We want to pick up where we left off after our first period and just get our focus back, get everyone going and doing their shift and getting off and staying away from the penalties."

Draper also liked the performances of his line of forwards Lindsay McAlpine, Allyson Benfield and Skelding, a line he sees as being one of his two go-to offensive units. He especially liked their movement and passing in the offensive zone as the two Skelding goals and one McAlpine goal should suggest. The Pandas were able to split the offense on the following night, as that line did not record a goal of the Pandas six goals in their 6-0 Sunday win.

Draper's squad will look to keep up their undefeated streak that is now at ten games, including pre-season play, as they head to Vancouver next weekend to take on the UBC Thunderbirds in a Halloween bash.



NICK WIEBE

**SEASON OPENER** Forward Kaye London and her Pandas swept the Huskies this weekend.

## Pandas basketball squad winless at Telus Mobility Hoopfest

CHRIS O'LEARY  
Sports Staff

The Pandas came away from their Hoopfest tournament emptyhanded this past weekend, as they were topped 62-56 by the Concordia Stingers Sunday afternoon in the Main Gym. After trailing by as much as twelve points in the first half, the Pandas discovered their post presence behind third-year forward Melissa Penner's 17-point effort, but turnovers and an inability to capitalize down the stretch dashed the Pandas' hopes of picking up what would have been their only win of the weekend.

The Pandas were troubled by turnovers throughout the game, and it was carelessness with the ball in a few key moments in Sunday's game that sealed the Pandas' fate. The futility of the weekend seemed to have taken its toll on Pandas head coach Tricia Baker. "I'd have to say my expectations were high, (heading into the weekend). We were in this game at the end, just like on Saturday, but we made some poor decisions," said Baker.

One positive that the Pandas can take away from Sunday's loss was their

impressive post play. Early in the first half, with their outside shots refused to drop, the Pandas began to dissect Concordia's defense with an array of backdoor cuts and give-and-go plays. The Stingers had no defensive answer for the Pandas' attack down low, and in the second half Penner remained dominant until fouling out in the game's final minutes. "Melissa had a great game, she's really coming into her own," Baker said. She also pointed out that her team has five post players who are all capable of performances similar to Penner's, and that with all five of them giving a consistent effort, the team would be much more effective.

Pandas floor general Cristi Allan earned All Star honors for her usual hard work and leadership. The other tournament all-stars include Irina McDermid of Queen's University, Anouk Boulanger from Bishop's University, Joil Bevan of the Saskatchewan Huskies, and Pascale Morin of Concordia University. The University of Calgary Dinos had the best overall showing, posting a 3-0 record, and Dino Jessica Poltinek was the tournament's MVP.



LANE DRIVIN' Pandas guard Carlie Paxton drives hard against Concordia.

## Bears and Pandas cross-country teams host first annual Stewart Cup

ANNA O'BRIEN  
Sports Staff

It was chilly, windy, and raining, but that didn't stop the Bears and Pandas cross-country teams from running a great race against teams from across the country in this past Saturday's first-ever Stewart Cup. The men's team stomped the competition, coming in first place by over 30 points and winning the Cup. The women's team finished in fourth.

The meet, formerly known as the Golden Bear Open, was changed to the Stewart Cup to honour the memory of former U of A athletes and friends Brian and Gerry Stewart, who both passed away while climbing this summer. "It was a very emotional race for our Bears and Pandas with the Stewart Boys on everyone's mind," said Pandas captain Heidi Nusse.

After the race, there was a one-mile "run for the Stewart's" in which most of the racers and many spectators took part. The Stewart family attended the race, after which eldest Stewart brother, David, gave a short speech of encouragement to the athletes.

"We think about [Brian] every day and running in this meet with his family watching was inspiring," said Bears captain Brian Torrance. "David spoke of the spirit of Brian and Gerry, [saying] that throughout our journey they would be pulling us along. It was a magical feeling, very difficult to describe, but our team of fifteen runners had never felt closer. We had a cheer and took off for one last stride before the race; it felt effortless."

The Bears arrived wearing bright orange "Stewart" T-shirts in memory of Brian Stewart's preference for colourful attire.

This race was the deciding competition for selection of the cross-country CIS teams. The top seven Bears and seven Pandas will represent the school in Moncton, New Brunswick in two weeks at the national championship.

The men's CIS team consists of Dallas Raudelaugh, captain Kelsey Keleman, captain Brian Torrance, Chad Kozak, Paul Tichlaar, Mike Metcalfe, and rookie Logan Bourke. "The team is confident in their chances at Nationals. Our coach Glen Playfair instills a belief in us that we can exceed our goals; he has been a huge reason for our success," commented Torrance.

The women's team will be led by Captain Heidi Nusse and includes Kerrianne Yewchuk, Lindsay Acheson, Michelle Carle, Krissy Dooling, Kristen Ryland, and Terra-Lee Stilwell. Panda's coach Audrey Giles has great confidence in her athletes, saying, "The

competition is tight. There is not much difference between the top six or so teams. Nationals are going to be very exciting."



Saturday Nov 1

A Powerplant Halloween with Hollywood recording artists

**FORTY FOOT ECHO**  
W/ DIZZY PIRANHA & BROKEN ANGEL.

Adv tix \$10, available at HUB, SUB, CAB desks and The Powerplant. Doors @ 8:30 pm

Thursday Nov 6

Ship Night and Outreach present -

**Gender Bender 2003**  
a \$2 charge, campus wide drag show. Show at 9 pm. More info at [sac@ualberta.ca](http://sac@ualberta.ca).

Saturday Nov 8

**BE BOP CORTEZ**  
W/ HEAVY METAL JAZZ CONCEPTS, & MAYOR MCCAA (Sonic Union).

\$7 @ the door, doors @ 8:30 pm.

Sunday Nov 9

Arts and Crafts recording artists from Toronto,

**BROKEN SOCIAL SCENE**  
W/ STARS, & JASON COLLETT. Adv tix \$13, available at Ticketmaster, HUB, SUB, and CAB desks, The Powerplant, Listen, and Blackbyrd.

Doors @ 8:30 pm

Saturday Nov 15

**THE UNCAS OLD BOYS**  
W/ THE WOWZERS & THE GRASSROOT DEVIATION. \$7 @ the door, doors @ 8:30 pm.

Saturday Nov 22

CJSR's "Gaywire" presents  
**THE HIDDEN CAMERAS**  
W/ THE TOM CRUISE MISSILE, AND BLUEROOM. Tix \$10 advance, available at Ticketmaster, The Powerplant, Listen, Blackbyrd, and HUB, SUB, and CAB desks. Doors @ 8:30 pm



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## A Brand New Day for Canucks

Forty Foot Echo declare "go big or go home" mentality, take their Canadian talent to the United States in hopes of finding fame

### Forty Foot Echo

with Dizzy Pintcha and Broken Angel  
Powerplay  
Saturday, 1 November

**MICHAEL FOWLER**  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Contrary to popular belief, it turns out Americans are bigger and better than us at some things—at least when it comes to building music corporations with the kind of deep pockets and staggering resources it takes to make a star. Forty Foot Echo frontman Murray Yates found out firsthand that while Canadian labels survive on wits and government contributions, our southern counterparts have the business connections that are really essential for rock 'n' roll dreams to be realized.

After the collapse of his former Juno-nominated electronic-rock act Templar, Yates, a Vancouver native, began looking for a home for his new incarnation of edgy, emotionally-driven rock, Forty Foot Echo. For him, the natural choice was to look southward to LA. "Being in Templar, I saw the way that the Canadian music industry worked and it's not as powerful as the American music industry. With that in mind, this time I aimed directly for the States; I thought go big or go home, and LA is the centre of the entertainment universe," Yates affirms.

The City of Angels soon blessed Forty Foot Echo with major label backing, which afforded the opportunities Yates was looking for. "By being signed to Hollywood Records, which is owned by Disney, [which] owns ABC, I'm right away connected to all kinds of opportunities—motion pictures, television and things like that. Honestly, Canada can't bring that to the table at an international level." With the help of national radio exposure, the band's single "Save Me," as well as "Brand New Day" (used by talk show Regis & Kelly), are soaring up the charts.

Of course, with bigger success also comes bigger problems, and Yates is quick to share his opinion on the hot topic of this generation: music downloading. "It is a scenario that's happened because of the changing of times in the music industry and the record companies not getting involved with the Internet early enough in the process," he asserts. "Now, the music industry is finding

themselves in the tough situation where nobody is really to blame."

To cope, music companies recently slashed CD prices in an attempt to encourage consumers to start buying again. Yates understands lower prices means less money coming into labels—which, in turn, means less hacking-money available to artists, but that's not his biggest worry with downloading. Yates is concerned it will eliminate artists altogether. "I think downloading is good as long as you pay for something, because you can't get something for nothing. Being a musician is a gift and I think people should appreciate and respect gifts," Yates says. "If it costs 99 cents, people should pay it. If it costs 10 cents, people should pay it. If they don't, all that is going to be left is street buskers."

While labels attempt to catch scurvy little Internet pirates and keep their musicians from busking in the streets, Forty Foot Echo and Yates are looking forward to their new record. Yates says his first-person style of emotional lyricism will remain a constant for the group. He does hope, however, that the recording of their sophomore album will yield something "edgier and heavier" and even jokingly offers, "maybe we'll grow our hair a little longer."

Backed by the major American promotion powers-that-be, the new American figures to continue to elevate Forty Foot Echo to prominence on radio and TV. While he's had to abandon his Canadian roots in search for glory in the limelight, it seems for now the band is in a great position, and will have only the woes of music-pilfering downloaders to complain about.



## Radio Berlin tunes into new wave, post-punk stylings

Although the Vancouver-based group has recently earned comparisons to big-name bands like Interpol and Hot Hot Heat, they are still having trouble getting the kids into the clubs to enjoy their unusual guitar stylings and synth sounds

### Radio Berlin

with The Floor, Wolfnote  
Listen Records  
Tuesday, 28 October

**ERIKA THORKEISON**  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

When most people imagine a rock 'n' roll tour, joyous hotel-smashing and drunkie groupie sex often come to mind. But in reality, being

on tour can be such a bad experience for an indie band it's a wonder anyone does it twice.

"On the last tour, we hit a deer going through Montana at like 70 miles an hour," recounts Radio Berlin vocalist/guitarist Jack Duckworth. "It was pretty harrowing. We had to get the van fixed and at that point our van was pretty much on its last legs."

Luckily, this time around has been a whole lot easier for the Vancouver foursome, despite an attack of the flu that took the whole band just before the tour. But that doesn't mean they are expecting things to be easy.

"On tour, you're driving all the time. You're staying up late and maybe you're not getting as much rest as you should because it's all go, go," explains

Duckworth. "You don't really have time to do stuff like keep in touch with people back at home. Most shows you play end at two and you go to bed at four and get up at one and you have to drive shortly after."

Then, of course, an indie band has to contend with bad promoters, backwater yokels who just don't get the idea of a band with influences like the Cure, and, worst of all, empty venues. Their sound is a blend of post-punk, new wave and early goth stylings that bring you back to the days of Joy Division. Despite the release of their second album, Glass, and recent hype, Duckworth says the band still has trouble getting the word out about their shows.

"Lately we've been getting a lot of comparisons

to bigger bands that are doing kind of remotely the same things we are—like Interpol and Hot Hot Heat, who we really don't have that much in common with, citing it as the next big thing," says Duckworth. "There was this one lineup in the Village Voice that said, 'you'll see them soon on MTV2'—as I'm reading it, we just played a show to like 20 people and I'm like, 'I don't know about that, buddy.'" Unfortunately, the problem seems to be even worse in the band's home country than across the border.

"If we were a hardcore punk band we'd probably do a lot better in cities like Regina, but for the most part, I don't think people would get it," says Duckworth. "There's a lot more going on down [in the US] with music. As much as there are a lot of rad bands in Canada, it's kind of digressive, because most of the bands in Canada are kind of boring. I don't think we'd ever tour Canada unless we were playing with someone that would draw in every town."

But, until then, and despite the accolades, the band has to deal with the sparse attendance. "It all depends on the room and the energy; sometimes you can play shows to not that many people and they can be really fun and into it, but sometimes you play shows where in your head you're questioning why you loaded all your gear into the van and you're playing anyway."

This, however, shouldn't be too much of a problem at Edmonton's Listen Records & CDs, a venue that, despite its tiny size, has hosted packed shows that range from Buck 65 to local indie boys in Tom Cruise Missile. And if not, Radio Berlin will just pack their gear right back in their van to try it again.



# Get ready to gag on Radio

## Radio

Starring Cuba Gooding Jr and Ed Harris  
Directed by Michael Tolkin  
[www.vinypictures.com/movies/radio](http://www.vinypictures.com/movies/radio)  
Now playing

DAN KASZOR  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Watching *Radio* is a lot like eating 20 Cadbury creme eggs in ten minutes: at first it's kind of yummy, but by the end you've ruined your shoes after poking up all that sweetness.

As you've probably seen from the commercials, *Radio* is about a young, mentally challenged man named Radio (Cuba Gooding Jr.). He wanders around his small hometown doing his own thing without supervision. At the end of every day, Radio looks longingly at the field where the town's favorite high-schoolers are practicing the only thing that American small towns seem to care about in movies: high school football.

The coach of the team (Ed Harris) takes a liking to Radio and invites him to help out with the team. Because of his involvement with the beefy athletes, and with the help of the coach, Radio becomes an active and loved member of the community. The end.

Oh sure, there are trials and tribulations along the way, but nothing that actually threatens his eventual glory. There are a few members of the community who seem to think he shouldn't be around, and a few kids who make fun of him; however, inevitably almost everyone is won over by Radio's kindness, selflessness, etcetera, etcetera, ad infinitum.

Although it is based on a true story, the film was clearly cooked up in a studio boardroom. It's almost as if the execs at Sony have created some sort of magical Oscar-Calibre Movie-Making Machine™ and this is its test run. They have a notable actor playing a simple-minded character. They have the noble authority figure (also played by a notable actor) won over by the retarded character's simple joys. They have the "based on a



**RADIO** He's touching and inspirational, but he sure does get nauseating.

true story" tag right under the title. Unfortunately, it's hastily stitched together and all the seams are still showing. Since the sentiment is so obviously manufactured and has been done to death in other movies, it's hard to take anything about *Radio* seriously.

That isn't to say that the film is entirely terrible. Both Cuba Gooding Jr and Ed Harris are above-average actors and they prove to be watchable. While Gooding Jr has a habit of overacting in some of his roles, it doesn't feel like he's doing that here. The emotional scenes are sometimes actually touching (such as when Radio is grieving for his mother), but eventually lose their effect because there is just so damn

many of them, and they've all been done before in other, better movies, like *Forrest Gump*. The filmmakers can also be praised for sticking to the events of the true story in a fairly accurate way, although it sometimes makes the story a touch less thrilling.

Some people enjoy the syrupy, overdone shick that this film has in spades; however, if you're not into easy emotion and films that don't just tug at your heartstrings but yank at them like a crack baby starving for attention (and crack), you should probably avoid *Radio*. If you are going to see it, just be prepared an overdose of sugary sentiment that might leave you with a serious case of the Easter egg hangovers.

## A small man and a big story

### The Station Agent

Starring Peter Dinklage, Patricia Clarkson and Bobby Cannavale  
Directed by Thomas McCarthy  
[www.thestationagent.com](http://www.thestationagent.com)  
Now playing

JASON NORMAN  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Finbar McBride sits on a rooftop overlooking Hoboken, New Jersey, rolling a cigarette. He takes a drag and casts his eyes over the great big world below; in his black suit and skinny black tie he almost looks like James Dean—well, aside from the fact that he happens to be four and a half feet tall.

*The Station Agent* is a film that tells the story of a small man trying to hide from a big world and the people who want to include him in their lives. The story follows the small-statured lead character Fin (Peter Dinklage), who, after inheriting an old station house in upstate New York, escapes to the countryside in an attempt to find isolation and to leave behind the big-city stresses and daily torment caused by his miniature frame. In the city, Fin encounters only laughter and pointing, but in his new surroundings, he comes in contact with just the opposite: acceptance and understanding.

Fin, however, stubbornly tries to remain in his solitary lifestyle, and the film becomes a story of the unlikely friendships that form as these characters try to drag Fin out into their world, while hoping to find a keyhole into his.

Peter Dinklage's performance as Fin,

with no pun intended, minimalist perfection. He says very little through the first half of the film, but carries the movie with his eyes and subtle cues. The performances from the rest of the cast also go a long way to compliment the heart and soul of this film about friendship happening where you least expect to find it.

There's Joe the lonely snack truck operator, who seeks conversation at all costs even if he has to talk about something he knows nothing about. There's also Olivia (Patricia Clarkson), who sees her relationship with Fin and Joe as a way of forgetting the pain over her lost child, which she can't let go of. Fin and Joe need Olivia's motherly touch, and she needs their youth, energy, and innocence. This trio is a working definition of the idealistic give-and-take of friendship, depicted within a very unusual combination of characters.

*The Station Agent* won the audience award at both the Aspen and the Sundance Film Festivals, along with a best performance nod for Clarkson and an emerging actor award for Dinklage. This is a small movie without a big name star in it, but the performances and story are larger than any Hollywood drama. The scenes that don't make you smile or laugh out loud might make you cry, or perhaps long for those friendships of summer days gone by. Quite simply, the *Station Agent* captures human emotions like a child catching fireflies on a June evening; the film glows and shows us that sometimes it's hard to hide from the people that need you, even if you're four and a half feet tall.



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### Ashanti

Chapter II  
 Murder Inc Records  
[www.washanticom](http://www.washanticom)

SCOTT SHARPLIN  
 Arts & Entertainment Writer

R&B's pre-fab princess burst onto the scene in 2001 with three Billboard Top Ten singles in a single week: a duet with Ja Rule ("Always on Time"), a duet with Fat Joe ("What's Luv?"), and her own single, "Foolish."

Timing that immaculate can only mean one thing: a mastermind marketer at work. In Ashanti's case, it was Murder Inc's Irv Gotti, who also thrust Jay-Z and DMX into the spotlight.

One would like to believe Ashanti got special treatment because she's such a special lady, but there's little in her voice, and less in her music, to suggest that there is anything of real importance about her at all.

Chapter II is a bland melange of squeaky-clean tracks, super-smooth ballads and kitchy skits and outtakes. This disc is as slim on content that it takes two separate introductory tracks (laden with "Murder Inc" station identification) before the music kicks in.

Why is she a star? Perhaps we find a clue in the fact that the liner notes fold out into a poster of Ashanti in low-cut beach wear. From the provocative pose in the cover, it appears that Ashanti's booty is far more polished than her musicianship. "Nuff said."

### The Lawrence Arms

The Greatest Story Ever Told  
 Fat Wreck Chords  
[www.fatwreck.com](http://www.fatwreck.com)

ADAM ROZENHART  
 Managing Editor

If Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde were ever going to start a punk rock band, they might sound something like The Lawrence Arms.

THREE

NOT LISTED IN THE ALBUMCLOUD



**Three**  
 The Artist in the Ambulance  
 Sub City Records  
[www.thrice.net](http://www.thrice.net)

ADAM ROZENHART  
 Managing Editor

Imagine if Jimmy Eat World frequently injected themselves with PCP; the sound they would make immediately after shooting some serious anger-medicine might sound something like Thrice.

The band combines hardcore punk with emo, and though at times the

The East Bay punk band's second album, modestly titled *The Greatest Story Ever Told*, launches a volley of gritty, yet emotic, punk rock at its listeners. At times polished, and at other times rough around the edges, this disc includes anthems fit for a coming-of-age movie starring Jason Biggs, but doesn't falter in its diversity by providing Tim Armstrong-like lyrics with driving powerchords and the requisite punk rock shouting.

The group joined the Fat Wreck Chords line-up with their debut release, *Apathy and Exhaustion*, in 2002. They quickly gained popularity and notoriety than two years later. *The Greatest Story Ever Told* resonates with the sounds of success.

Maybe there's hope for punk rock yet—can we count on a split personality band to provide us with some stability in the world of boring, same-sounding music? I'd bet my arms on it.

two don't transition into each other seamlessly, the result is still a worthwhile listen. Thrice's style moves from straight-up hardcore to slightly-softer punk ballads, which all retain enough angst to ensure that any self-respecting headbanger would appreciate them. They combine the emotions of emo with the heaviness of punk to form an ensemble of tunes that will make you want to cry as often as they make you want to scream.

The more sensitive of pop punk pups will also enjoy a few tracks on this CD, like "Cold Cash and Cold Hearts," which is a mournful and emotic tune that describes the ways we ignore the destruction of our environment while we make the grab for more and more wealth.

Thrice has obviously put some thought into their lyrics and their arrangements. You'll regret it if you didn't put some thought into buying their latest. The FUBAR-esque rocker in you won't regret it.



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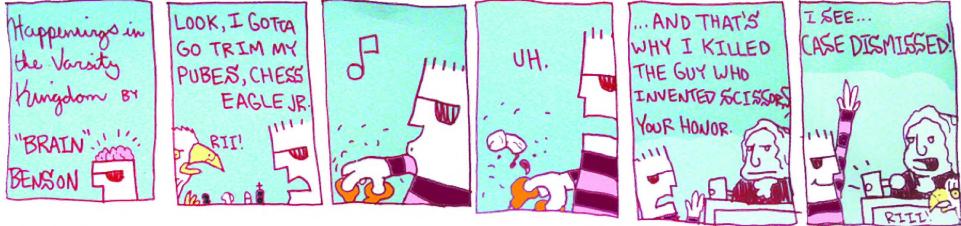
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